

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 XMB-02

OPIC-03 /095 W

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DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE FOR FAS ANDERSON, STROBEL, FRASER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: REPORT OF JAPAN ACTION TO REDUCE IMPORTS OF POULTRY

REF: STATE 096032

1. AGATT CONFERRED UNOFFICIALLY WITH MINISTRY OF AGRIC (MAF)
AND CURRENT SITUATION RE SUBJ FOLLOWS:

2. IMPORTS OF FROZEN YOLKS AND WHOLE EGGS IN 1975 INCREASED
22.7 AND 20.5 PERCENT ABOVE 1974 LEVELS AMIDST DOMESTIC
SITUATION WHERE EGG PRODUCTION 1975 FELL 1.3 PERCENT BECAUSE
OF CONTINUING ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS.

3. SITUATION AHS RECENTLY LET TO STORNG PRODUCER DEMAND TO
CURB IMPORTS. PRODUCERS AND PERHAPS MAF SUCCESSFULLY CONVINCED
LARGE MAYONNAISE MANUFACTURER TO CUT BACK 1976 IMPORT PLANS FOR
EGG YOLKS BY 2,000 MT.

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4. PRODUCERS ARE ALSO URGING GOJ TO DOUBLE EGG IMPORT DUTY

FROM YEN 60 PER KG NOW TO YEN 120 FOR EGGS VALUED AT LESS THAN YEN 240 CIF. PRESENT DUTY SYSTEM FOR YOLKS AND WHOLE EGGS IS TO CHARGE 25 PERCENT FOR PRICES ABOVE YEN 240 PER KG CIF OR YEN 60 FLAT DUTY FOR THOSE BELOW YEN 240. PRESENT SYSTEM WAS DECIDED AT TIME WHEN DOMESTIC SHELLED EGG PRICES WERE FIRM AT ABOUT YEN 170-190 PER KG. CURRENT PRICES AVERAGE YEN 300 PER KG.

5. MAF RELUCTANT TO REVEAL IF ANY ACTION IS BEING TAKEN REGARDING DEMANDED HIKE IN CUSTOMS DUTY BY PRODUCERS. HOWEVER, ADMIN PROCEDURE TO EFFECTUATE DUTY CHANGES IS TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO CUSTOMS TARIFF DELIBERATION COUNCIL IN DEC FOR REVIEW. FINAL RECOMMENDATION IS MADE TO FINANCE MINISTER. POSSIBILITY IS THAT EGG IMPORT DUTY MAY BE RAISED NEXT FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING APR 77 AT EARLIEST, HOWEVER AGATT EXPECTS MORE "ADMIN GUIDANCE" TO BE APPLIED ON IMPORTERS AND END-USERS IF DOMESTIC EGG PRODUCTION SITUATION WORSENS AS EXPECTED DUE LAYER CHICK PLACEMENT UP 5 PERCENT IN 1975.
HODGSON

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